UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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09/756,226	01/09/2001	Isamu Ooishi	1095.1149 (JDH)	6990

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EXAMINER
TRAN, QUOC A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>08 June 2005</u>.

2a)☒ This action is FINAL.　　2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-15* is/are pending in the application.

　　4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-15* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

　　Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

　　Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

　　a)☐ All　b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

　　　1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

　　　2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

　　　3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

　　* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to Amendment A, filed 06/08/2005.

2.   Claims 1-15 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 9, 13, 14 and 15 are

independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or
> described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject
> matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole
> would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary
> skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived
> by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 9, 12 and 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Borman et al. US005890172A - filed 10/08/1996 (hereinafter '172), in view of

Rosenthal US006148301A – filed 07/02/1998 (hereinafter '301).

In regard to independent claim 9, *"link generation means for producing a link to one of*

the special character image files that is relevant to the identified special character; compilation

means for compiling an output document by replacing the special characters identified in the

source document with the links to the special character images", as taught by '172, at col. 7, line

65 through col. 8, line 21 (i.e. ...a In response to the entry of the query "Rat" as shown on FIG.

4... The topical index 46 at Yahoo.TM. shown in FIG. 1, is searched and the file 502a-b

containing all related level 1 hot-links and other information is returned to the client 20 and

displayed to the user by the browser as 502a-b... which indicates 74 matches pertaining to the

word "Rat" and display of the first 20 hot links for those matches... Various hot-links with

subject descriptions appear on the page in bold text with underlining. These are, for example,

508, "Entertainment, Humor . . .", 510, "Regional Alternative Theater . . . ", 512, "Space RAT . .

. ", 514, "Agrizap, Inc . . . ".... Each hot-link as discussed above is an active reference. For

example the hot-link 514 comprises a hypertext identifier "<A", an URL 516, a text portion 518

and a closing identifier. The browser displays to the user only text portion 518 and any images

that may accompany it. These are highlighted and underlined on the user display to indicate to

the user that when they are selected with a mouse a corresponding URL will be sent by the

browser to the Internet to access the specific file referred to by the URL...).

'172 does not explicitly teach, *"a special character image dictionary which is a*

collection of special character image files each containing a graphic image of a special

character; special character database file which contains data to manage the special character

image files in said special character image dictionary", however as taught by '301 at col. 2,

lines 30-40 (i.e...database for storing vast amounts of information and for providing high speed

access thereto. The information database is adapted for allowing new and updated information to

be easily added thereto at any time. In one application of the invention, the information database

stores picture and character images of documents...);

"special character identification means for identifying a special character used in the

created document, by consulting the special character database file", however as taught by '301

at col. 6, lines 30-45 (i.e... the document information stored in the database 42, the information

provider 12 may also provide a document index 80, an example of which is shown in FIG. 4.

Here, the document index 80 is preferably a document itself that is prepared by the information provider 12 and transmitted upon request to a subscriber 14...).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teaching of '301 into '172 to provide a way, wherein special character identification means for identifying a special character used in the created document, by consulting the special character database file; a special character image dictionary which is a collection of special character image files each containing a graphic image of a special character; special character database file which contains data to manage the special character image files in said special character image dictionary. One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification for providing the systems for storing data, text and other types of information, and for distributing the information to subscribers in an efficient and timely manner without incurring either duplicated distributions or distribution to subscribers who are not interested in the particular information, as taught by '301 at col. 1, lines 1-10 (i.e... systems for storing data, text and other types of information...).

In regard to dependent claim 12, "*code conversion means for converting a character code used in the created document into another character code belonging to a required coding system, when the character code is identified as a non-special character by said special character identification means*", as taught by '172, at col. 6, lines 625-40 (i.e. ... Jumper parser 216 handles the task of converting an HTML encoded file uploaded from browser user I/O 208 into a format suitable for a single jump or automatic jump mode search ...).

In regard to independent claim 14, is directed to a computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 9, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

In regard to independent claim 1, incorporate substantially similar subject matter as

cited in claim 9 above, and in further view of the following, and is similarly rejected along the

same rationale;

"and uploading means for transmitting the special character database file and the

special character image files" , as taught by '172 at col. 7, lines 15-20 (i.e. .....Refresh/update

button 326 causes all hot-links in a file which the browser has retrieved to be parsed and

uploaded and displayed in the drop-down list of jumper window 300. Additionally, this parsed

list is stored in HTML storage segment 230 as shown in FIG. 2...);

"second image data storage means for storing the special character database file and

special character images received from said uploading means", as taught by '172 at col. 4,

lines 63-67 (i.e. ..... FIG. 9A. FIG. 9A shows a series of hypertext files. The files may be

resident on a hard drive...);

"special character identification means for identifying a special character used in a

given source document by consulting the special character database file stored in said second

image data storage means", however as taught by '301 at col. 6, lines 30-45 (i.e... the document

information stored in the database 42, the information provider 12 may also provide a document

index 80, an example of which is shown in FIG. 4. Here, the document index 80 is preferably a

document itself that is prepared by the information provider 12 and transmitted upon request to a

subscriber 14...);

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention

to modify the teaching of '301 into '172 to provide a way, wherein special character

identification means for identifying a special character used in the created document, by

consulting the special character database file; a special character image dictionary which is a

collection of special character image files each containing a graphic image of a special character;

special character database file which contains data to manage the special character image files in

said special character image dictionary. One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been

motivated to perform such a modification for providing the systems for storing data, text and

other types of information, and for distributing the information to subscribers in an efficient and

timely manner without incurring either duplicated distributions or distribution to subscribers who

are not interested in the particular information, as taught by '301 at col. 1,

lines 1-10 (i.e... systems for storing data, text and other types of information...).

In regard to independent claim 15, incorporates substantially similar subject matter as

cited in claim 1 above, and is similarly rejected along the same rationale.

Claims 2-8,10-11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Borman et al. US005890172A - filed 10/08/1996 (hereinafter '172), in view of

Rosenthal US006148301A – filed 07/02/1998 (hereinafter '301), in further view of Ikeda et

al. US006073143A – filed 04/24/1996 (hereinafter '711).

In regard to dependent claim 10, *"from the created document and keeps the extracted*

information locally", as taught by '172, at col. 4, lines 60-67 (i.e. ... FIG. 9A. FIG. 9A shows a

series of hypertext files. The files may be resident on a hard drive, a local network, a wide area

network or the Internet..,).

'172 and '301 do not explicitly teach, *"font size tracking means for extracting character*

size attribute information from the created document", however as taught

by '711 at col. 10, lines 30-35 (i.e... FIG. 8 is a table that lists the attributes of the font element
.... font attributes include the size, style and face characteristics of the text characters as
displayed on the display device...).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention
to modify the teaching of '711 into '172 and '301 to provide a way, wherein font size tracking
means for extracting character size attribute information from the created document. One of the
ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification for
providing a searching/retrieval system, featuring tools such as the a hot-link, wherein a browser
detects that selection and outputs the URL on the Internet to retrieve the file corresponding to
that URL and display it to the user for traversing hypertext data and encoded the browse to a
suitable format for display to the user as taught by '172 at col. 1, lines 1-10 and col. 2, lines 30-
45 (i.e. ... tools for traversing hypertext data...).

In regard to dependent claim 11, *"link generation means produces a link to one of the
special character image files that meets the special character code identified by said special
character identification means and the character size attribute information maintained in said
font size tracking means"*, however as taught by '711 at col. 10, lines 30-60 (i.e.... VitaScript...
font attributes include the size, style and face characteristics of the text characters as displayed
on the display device...attribute linking facilitates the entry of common information. ...), also as
taught by 711 at col. 3, lines 65-67 (i.e.... providing links to web pages available on various
Internet sites. In a typical Internet client-server environment, the client computer accesses the
Internet through a single point of contact, commonly referred to as an Internet Service Provider
(ISP) or on-line service provider ...).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention

to modify the teaching of '711 into '172 and '301 to provide a way, wherein link generation

means produces a link to one of the special character image files that meets the special character

code identified by said special character identification means and the character size attribute

information maintained in said font size tracking means. One of the ordinary skills in the art

would have been motivated to perform such a modification for providing a searching/retrieval

system, featuring tools such as the a hot-link, wherein a browser detects that selection and

outputs the URL on the Internet to retrieve the file corresponding to that URL and display it to

the user for traversing hypertext data and encoded the browse to a suitable format for display to

the user as taught by '172 at col. 1, lines 1-10 and col. 2, lines 30-45 (i.e. ... tools for traversing

hypertext data...).

In regard to dependent claim 2, *"special character definition means defines character*

codes and character sizes of the special characters to be converted", however as taught by '711

at col. 10, lines 30-35 (i.e... FIG. 8 is a table that lists the attributes of the font element .... font

attributes include the size, style and face characteristics of the text characters as displayed on the

display device...).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention

to modify the teaching of '711 into '172 and '301 to provide a way, wherein special character

definition means defines character codes and character sizes of the special characters to be

converted. One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to perform such a

modification for providing a searching/retrieval system, featuring tools such as the a hot-link,

wherein a browser detects that selection and outputs the URL on the Internet to retrieve the file

corresponding to that URL and display it to the user for traversing hypertext data and encoded

the browse to a suitable format for display to the user as taught by '172 at col. 1, lines 1-10 and

col. 2, lines 30-45 (i.e. ... tools for traversing hypertext data...).

In regard to dependent claim 3, *"special character image generation means produces*

one special character image file for each identified special character, based on the character

pattern data read out of the given character pattern dictionary", as taught by '301 at col. 2, lines

30-40 (i.e...database for storing vast amounts of information and for providing high speed access

thereto. The information database is adapted for allowing new and updated information to be

easily added thereto at any time. In one application of the invention, the information database

stores picture and character images of documents...).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention

to modify the teaching of '301 into '172 and '143 to provide a way, wherein special character

image generation means produces one special character image file for each identified special

character, based on the character pattern data read out of the given character pattern dictionary.

One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification

for providing the systems for storing data, text and other types of information, and for

distributing the information to subscribers in an efficient and timely manner without incurring

either duplicated distributions or distribution to subscribers who are not interested in the

particular information, as taught by '301 at col. 1, lines 1-10 (i.e... systems for storing data, text

and other types of information...).

In regard to dependent claim 4, *"special character image generation means produces*

as many special character image files as the number of different character sizes for each

identified special character, based on the character pattern data read out of the given character pattern dictionary", however as taught by '301 at col. 2, lines 30-40 (i.e...database for storing vast amounts of information and for providing high speed access thereto. The information database is adapted for allowing new and updated information to be easily added thereto at any time. In one application of the invention, the information database stores picture and character images of documents...).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teaching of '301 into '172 and '143 to provide a way, wherein special character image generation means produces as many special character image files as the number of different character sizes for each identified special character, based on the character pattern data read out of the given character pattern dictionary. One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification for providing the systems for storing data, text and other types of information, and for distributing the information to subscribers in an efficient and timely manner without incurring either duplicated distributions or distribution to subscribers who are not interested in the particular information, as taught by '301 at col. 1, lines 1-10 (i.e... systems for storing data, text and other types of information...).

In regard to dependent claim 5, "*assigns a file name to each produced special character image file, the file name comprising text fields that indicate the character code and the character size, whereby an appropriate special character image file can be uniquely and immediately identified by a given character code and character size*", however as taught by '301 at col. 6, lines 30-45 (i.e... the document information stored in the database 42, the information provider 12 may also provide a document index 80, an example of which is shown in FIG. 4.

Here, the document index 80 is preferably a document itself that is prepared by the information

provider 12 and transmitted upon request to a subscriber 14...).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention

to modify the teaching of '301 into '172 and '143 to provide a way, wherein assigns a file name

to each produced special character image file, the file name comprising text fields that indicate

the character code and the character size, whereby an appropriate special character image file can

be uniquely and immediately identified by a given character code and character size. One of the

ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification for

providing the systems for storing data, text and other types of information, and for distributing

the information to subscribers in an efficient and timely manner without incurring either

duplicated distributions or distribution to subscribers who are not interested in the particular

information, as taught by '301 at col. 1, lines 1-10 (i.e... systems for storing data, text and other

types of information...).

In regard to dependent claim 6, *" and maintains the extracted information locally"*, as

taught by '172, at col. 4, lines 60-67 (i.e. ... FIG. 9A. FIG. 9A shows a series of hypertext files.

The files may be resident on a hard drive, a local network, a wide area network or the Internet..,).

'172 and '301 do not explicitly teach, *"font size tracking means for finding character size*

attribute information in the given source document", however as taught

by '711 at col. 10, lines 30-35 (i.e... FIG. 8 is a table that lists the attributes of the font element

.... font attributes include the size, style and face characteristics of the text characters as

displayed on the display device...).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention

to modify the teaching of '711 into '172 and '301 to provide a way, wherein *font* size tracking

means for finding character size attribute information in the given source document. One of the

ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification for

providing a searching/retrieval system, featuring tools such as the a hot-link, wherein a browser

detects that selection and outputs the URL on the Internet to retrieve the file corresponding to

that URL and display it to the user for traversing hypertext data and encoded the browse to a

suitable format for display to the user as taught by '172 at col. 1, lines 1-10 and col. 2, lines 30-

45 (i.e. ... tools for traversing hypertext data...).

In regard to dependent claim 7, incorporate substantially similar subject matter as cited

in claims 1 and 6 above, and is similarly rejected along the same rationale.

In regard to dependent claim 8, *"code conversion means for converting a character*

code used in the given source document into another character code belonging to a required

coding system, when the character code is identified as a non-special character by said special

character identification means", as taught by '172, at col. 6, lines 625-40 (i.e. ... Jumper parser

216 handles the task of converting an HTML encoded file uploaded from browser user I/O 208

into a format suitable for a single jump or automatic jump mode search ...).

In regard to independent claim 13, is directed to a computer readable medium for

performing the method of claims 1, 6 and 8 and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

Response to Argument

4.   Applicant's arguments filed 06/08/2005 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive. In response to applicant's arguments on pages 7-9, for claims 1, 9, 12 and 14-15,

Applicant argues the rejection under 35 USC 103, Obviousness (see Remarks, pages 7-9). To

concisely address the elaborate arguments presented, the Examiner respectfully disagrees for

the detailed reasons stated in the rejection of each claim limitation previously presented in

Office Action mail date 02/08/2005 (please see rejections for detail). In further support of the

previous Office Action, please note the following:

Additionally, the main thrust of the applicant's argument is Borman '172 and Rosenthal

'301 are not properly combined. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation of the claims, the

Borman '172 reference teaches and/or suggests all limitations of claim 1 but, a special

character image dictionary and special character database file which contains data to manage

the special character image files in said special character image dictionary, however Rosenthal

'301 at col. 2, lines 24-67, discloses an information distribution system, includes the

information database, which stores picture and character images of documents, as supplied to

the system by way of facsimile and otherwise. In addition to storing the identity of each

subscriber, there is stored the subject matter areas of interest to the subscribers, as well as other

necessary information. Examiner read the above in the broadest reasonable interpretation to the

claim limitation, wherein character image dictionary and special character database file would

have been an obvious variant of information database, which stores picture and character

images of documents to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the. It would have been

obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have

modified the teaching of Borman '172, provides a network browser embedded with hyperlink

for information revival wherein conducting with jumper and browser schema (see rejection

above for more details, also see Fig.5A-6), to include a means of utilizing the information

database, which stores picture and character images of documents of Rosenthal '301. One of

the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification for

providing the systems for storing data, text and other types of information, and for distributing

the information to subscribers in an efficient and timely manner without incurring either

duplicated distributions or distribution to subscribers who are not interested in the particular

information, (as taught by '301 at col. 1, lines 1-10).

Therefor, the rejection deemed to be proper at this time.

Conclusion

5.   THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy

as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing

date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quoc A. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-4103. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 11AM to 7PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Herndon R Heather can be reached on (571) -272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Quoc A. Tran

Patent Examiner

Technology Center 2176

August 19, 2005

WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
8/21/2005